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SOVIETS DESIGN OXYHEMOMETER

I. Nadezhdin

/The device described below is probably well suited for the detection of carbon-monoxide poisoning and changes in the blood produced by poisons in general./

At the Institute of Physiology imeni I. P. Pavlov, Academy of Sciences USSR, and the Leningrad experimental workshops of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, Prof E. M. Kreps /Kreba?/, Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences USSR; M. S. Shipalov, Candidate of Technical Sciences; and engineers E. A. Bolotinskiy and A. G. Kreitzer designed a cathodic oxyhemometer which makes it possible to carry out continuous measurements of variations in the oxygen content of the circulating human blood.

The instrument is a simplified electrophotometer, consisting of a light source, a photocell, special light filter, and a control panel with indicator dial. It used 80-240 v ac. It is compact and fits into a small carrying case.

In use, the device is generally attached to the outer ear. The light rays which pass through the tissues and blood vessels strike the photoelement. Absorption /of the light rays/ varies with the oxygen content of the blood. The change in the amount of light striking the photoelement measures the percentage of oxygenin the circulating blood. This percentage is recorded on the dial.

The device is especially useful for early discovery of threatening pathological conditions; it makes possible more careful control after surgical operations involving the lungs; it assists the physician in the diagnosis of diseases of the heart and the respiratory organs; and it is useful in the study of changes produced by variations of atmospheric pressure. It is also intended for the study of the degree of saturation of the blood with oxygen during rest as well as under working conditions.

The new USSR oxyhemometer is superior to similar devices designed and produced abroad.

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